

REMARKS

Claims 2-10, 13-14, 17-18, 21-22, 25, and 26 are pending. Claims 27-38 have been cancelled. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

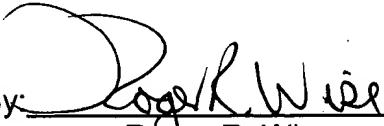
In the May 21, 2004 Final Office Action the Examiner allowed claims 2-10, 13-14, 17-18, 21-22, 25, and 26. The Examiner rejected claims 27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Saito et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,181,374 (hereinafter the Saito reference) in view of Hattori, U.S. Patent No. 5,398,058 (hereinafter the Hattori reference). The Examiner rejected claims 28, 31, 34, and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over the Saito reference, in view in view of Hattori, and in further view of Spaulding et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,243,133 (hereinafter the Spaulding reference). Claims 27-38 have been cancelled.

The Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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